

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A non-return device for use between a waste outlet and a waste pipe in a plumbing system, the said device comprising:

a tubular housing, for connection between the waste outlet and the waste pipe;

flexible impervious wall members of complementary shapes disposed within the said housing for communication with the said waste outlet at a first, upstream, end thereof, the said flexible, impervious wall members being of complementary shapes and disposed face-to-face in surface contact so that there is no through passage between them in their normal state and resiliently urged into the said normal state; and

means holding the said wall[[s]] members spaced apart from one another at the said first end thereof to define an inlet for fluid, thereby enabling it to reach the interface of the ~~an end of the device to define an inlet for ingress of fluid to the interface of said~~ members, whereby in-flowing fluid ~~will~~ can force the said members apart to permit flow between them from the waste outlet and to inlet and the other end of the device, whereas fluid flow in the opposite direction is prevented by the close surface contact between the members;

wherein the ~~device comprises~~ housing is provided with a tubular body outlet portion for connection to the waste pipe, the said outlet portion surrounding the wall members and a tubular outlet portion extending from an outlet end of the body portion and having a different diameter therefrom from the housing, the longitudinal axis of the tubular body portion housing and the longitudinal axis of the tubular outlet portion being mutually radially offset, so that a wall portion of the body portion is radially congruous with a wall portion of the outlet portion, so as to define a generally uninterrupted flow surface for discharging fluid.

2. (Currently amended) A non-return device according to Claim 1, wherein the outlet portion has a smaller diameter than the ~~body portion~~ housing.

3. (Currently Amended) A non-return device according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the ~~body portion~~ housing and the outlet portion are joined by an intermediate portion[[,]] which is tapered.

4. (Currently Amended) A non-return device according to any preceding claim, wherein the ~~body portion~~ housing has a circular cross-section having a radius r_1 and the outlet portion has a circular cross-section having a radius r_2 , the two radii being radially offset by a distance R ; wherein $R = r_1 - r_2$.

5. (Currently Amended) A non-return device for use between a waste outlet and a waste pipe in a plumbing system, the said device comprising:

a tubular housing, for connection between the waste outlet and the waste pipe;
flexible[[,]] impervious wall members disposed within the said housing for communication with the said waste outlet at a first, upstream, end thereof, the said flexible, impervious wall members being of complementary shapes disposed face-to-face in surface contact, so that there is no through passage between them in a normal state and resiliently urged into the said normal state; and

support means for holding said wall members spaced apart from one another at the said first end thereof to define an inlet for fluid, thereby enabling it to reach the interface of an end of the device to define an inlet for ingress of fluid to the interface of said members, whereby in-flowing fluid will can force said members apart to permit flow between them from the inlet waste outlet and to the other end of the device, whereas flow in the opposite direction is prevented by the close surface contact between the members;

wherein means is provided for compressing a portion of the device comprises a tubular body portion surrounding the wall members and means are provided for compressing a portion of the wall members situated in a region adjacent the inlet against the said support means holding the walls spaced apart from one another and/or and compressing the said portion of the wall members against the said tubular body portion housing as the device is axially constrained within the housing, yet axially

movable within the limits of its constraint, so as to enable the said compression of the wall members therebetween. ~~attached to a fluid-supplying component, so as to provide a seal.~~

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A non-return device according to Claim 6 wherein the support ~~means holding the walls spaced apart~~ is in the form of an annular sleeve which is located coaxially within the ~~tubular body housing~~ housing.

8. (Previously Presented) A non-return device according to Claim 7, wherein the annular sleeve has an end face which is adapted to abut the end of a component to which the device is to be attached, thereby experiencing an axial displacement relative to the body portion, as the body portion is axially drawn towards the component during attachment thereto.

9. (Previously Presented) A non-return device according to Claim 8, wherein the end face comprises a compression seal, so as to effect a seal between the component and the said inlet upon mounting.

10. (Currently Amended) A non-return device according to Claim 7, wherein the sleeve is provided at an axial inlet end of the body portion and surrounded by a nut, which surrounds the sleeve and can be screwed on to a component to which the device is to be fitted, thereby drawing the body portion axially towards the component.

11. (Currently Amended) A non-return device ~~comprises;~~ for use between a waste outlet and a waste pipe in a plumbing system;

the said device comprising a tubular housing, for connection between the waste outlet and the waste pipe;

flexible[[L]] impervious wall members of complementary shapes disposed within the said housing for communication with the said waste outlet at a first, upstream, end

thereof, the said flexible, impervious wall members being of complementary shapes and disposed face-to-face in surface contact so that there is no through passage between them in their normal state and resiliently urged into the normal state; and

means holding the said wall[[s]] members spaced apart from one another at the said first end thereof ~~an end of the device~~ to define an inlet for ~~ingress of fluid thereby~~ enabling it to reach the interface of said members, to the interface of said members, whereby in-flowing fluid will force said members apart to permit flow between them from the ~~inlet~~ waste outlet and to the other end of the device, whereas flow in the opposite direction is prevented by the close surface contact between the members; wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 0.3% to 3% of their width, the said width being measured in a direction transverse to the forward fluid flow direction.

12. (Previously Presented) A non-return device according to Claim 11 wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 0.5% to 2.5% of their width.

13. (Previously Presented) A non-return device according to Claim 12, wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 1% to 2% of their width.